

Sequachee Valley News.

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JAPAN AND THE JAPANESE

JAMES C. THORNTON WRITES ENTERTAININGLY OF THAT FAR AWAY COUNTRY.

Manila, Philippine Islands, Oct. 18, 1908.

To the News:

According to agreement with friends at home while sojourning in the far east I sit down to fulfill the promise they extracted from me and shall try and make what I have to say as interesting as possible.

The following is a letter describing my first trip to Japan, and I will try and take in every detail of the trip that you may see how a sailor spends his time (and money) while visiting foreign places of interest.

At two o'clock Sunday afternoon, March 25th, 1907, we left Manila, P. I., for Shanghai, China. The hilly coast of Luzon, which is covered with dense tropical growth, was in view until nightfall. A monsoon was blowing, and the sea was choppy. During the night we passed through the Bashee Channel and in the morning were on the right side of the island of Formosa going north. The population of Formosa is about 2,000,000. It is three hundred and fifty miles long and on an average of one hundred miles wide. Its area is 14,978 square miles or about one third the size of the state of Pennsylvania. The island is separated from the Chinese mainland by the strait of Fokien, which has a width of ninety miles in its narrowest part, and it forms part of the long range of islands which protect the Chinese coast extending from Amoy to the Yellow Sea against the broad expanse of the Pacific and the dreaded typhoons.

In 1624 the Dutch established trading posts and attempted to spread their influence over the island, but subsequently the Chinese, under Kwo Sing, drove them out. The island was then divided into three parts, the northern part being the domain of the Chinese, the middle part being the domain of the Dutch, and the southern part being the domain of the British. The island was then divided into three parts, the northern part being the domain of the Chinese, the middle part being the domain of the Dutch, and the southern part being the domain of the British.

The inhabitants of Formosa may be divided into three classes, the Chinese, many of whom came from Amoy and Swatow; the subjugated aborigines, and the uncivilized savage of the eastern region, who refused to recognize authority and carried on raids as opportunity occurred. The island was ceded to Japan at the close of the Chinese-Japanese war.

The vegetation of the island is of tropical luxuriance, the mountainous region being clad with dense forests, in which various species of palms, camphor trees, and aloes are conspicuous. Rice is cultivated in such quantities as to procure for Formosa the title of the "granary of China." Sugar, tea, indigo, jute, hemp, oil and rattans are all articles of export. There are several large tea districts—the larger part of the products of which is exported to the United States.

A chain of mountains, called Fashan or great mountains, extends through the island from North to south, and attains in several of its summits no inconsiderable elevation. The loftiest part is Mount Morrison, which is said to be 12,850 feet high. The formation of the island appears to have been due, in part at least, to volcanic energy. Coal, sulphur, and petroleum, are the only mineral productions which are known to exist in quantities sufficient to make them of economical importance.

On the morning of the 28th Formosa had been passed and our course lay through the Eastern Sea. During the forenoon of the 29th the water changed almost abruptly from an intense deep blue to a yellow shade, which is a sign of the approach to the estuary of the Yangtse-kiang river, which colors the briny deep a hundred miles from the coast. At 2 p. m., a pilot came aboard and after a speedy run for a couple of hours we soon anchored on the clayey water off the Woosung fort.

Shanghai is fifteen miles inland from Woosung. While anchored at Woosung, each morning after the impressive ceremony of "colors" the band played "The Star Spangled Banner" and the Chinese, French, English, Russian and Japanese national airs, in honor of the port and foreign warships present. On April 9th we left for Kobe, Japan, via Van Diemen Strait. On the morning of the 11th, after having passed through the strait, we first saw the land of Dai Nippon (Great Japan), which was the mainland of

the island of Kiu Si. Early Thursday morning, the 12th, we passed through the sea of Ki Shu, and then entered the gulf of Osaka through the King Channel which is about half a mile wide. In passing through this channel I counted twenty-eight large guns on one side and sixteen on the other which would menace a hostile fleet. The city is picturesquely situated at the entrance to the "Inland Sea of Japan."

It is the foreign port of the adjoining town of Hiogo, and the two cities are incorporated under the title of Kobe City. The population is 274,000. Its commercial importance is almost the same as that of Yokohama which ranks first, and it is the terminal of the Imperial railway system and has large ship building works and other industries. The foreign settlement is well laid out and one is at once impressed with the cleanliness of the streets. The artistic sense of the Japanese is noticeable everywhere, and may be particularly observed in the tidiness of the shops and homes. Along the main street there are attractive silk shops and curio stores, and the busy thoroughfare is crowded with jinrickshas and pedestrians. Only a small proportion of the natives wear European clothing. The city is therefore thoroughly Japanese and here the natives go about wearing kimonos, the national dress, and the clumsy clogs the common footgear.

During our stay at Kobe the cherry blossom season was at hand. It is a national festival that begins at the blooming of the flower. The people dress in their best and visit the cherry orchards. All sorts of outdoor games are played, and in the evening thousands of lanterns are hung on the trees. The value of the Japanese cherry trees is chiefly in the pinkish flowers with which the trees are so heavily laden that not a vestige of leaf is visible. While in bloom (about three weeks during the month of April) a gala season reigns and all the singing girls of the Empire have a dance that tells of the cherry blossoming. The setting of the dancing stage is changed several times to suit the meaning of the play. In a special room set apart for the purpose, tea and cakes are served by fair Japanese damsels.

April 15th we left Kobe for Yokohama, arriving at our destination on the 17th. At day break on the 17th, when almost a hundred miles from Yokohama, we were favored with a view of Mt. Fuji-san. On a clear day Mount Fuji-san may be seen from the deck of a ship at anchor in Yokohama harbor. Seventy-five miles to the southward it rises to an altitude of 12,390 feet in shape like a cone. A considerable portion of the peak is wrapped in snow all the year around which glows in the morning sunlight, majestic and impressive against a deep blue sky.

The Japanese poets never weary in praise of Fuji-san and it is regarded by the natives as a sacred mountain. It is the highest and most famous mountain in Japan and one of the most familiar objects in Japanese decorative art. In geographical works it is termed Fuji-yama, but is best known to the people of the neighboring country side as Fuji-san. According to Japanese tradition, it was upheaved in a single night from the bottom of the sea over two thousand years ago.

The crater is 750 feet deep and in former times an active volcano, but now there are no sulphuric eruptions. The last eruption was in 1707 when the whole summit burst in flames and ashes fell in Tokyo (about sixty miles distant).

The city has a population of 305,000 inhabitants. It is the chief commercial city of the empire. The city is built close down to the waters edge and numerous villas of foreign residents are built on a hill known as the "Bluff" over looking the town. It was an insignificant fishing village when Commodore Perry anchored off it in 1854.

The general view of Yokohama from the deck of a ship is purely oriental and does not vary from the usual eastern harbor scenes. As our boats wind their way among the large vessels at anchor in the harbor on the trip to shore, we encounter scores of little flat bottom sampans, propelled by a single oar at the stern handled with a peculiar swing by one or more natives. At the landing place we are at once approached by hundreds of rickshas coolies. The first experience in a jinrickshaw is a novelty. The vehicle has two wheels and is drawn by a coolie who runs between two shafts. These coolies have wonderful power of endurance, and the writer knows of instances where they have drawn a rickshaw and passenger over many miles of rough streets without the least show of fatigue. Their stoic life has hardened them to the condition of an athlete, and cold or warm weather, rainy or sunny days, does not effect them. The fare is twenty sen in honor (ten cents gold American money), and upon arriving at one's destination the

Jasper Department

Conducted by J. D. M.

John Morrison has moved his family to Dunlap.

B. E. Tatum attended circuit court at Altamont last week.

Miss Ethel Hoge spent several days last week in Chattanooga.

Wm. Douglass, of Whiteside, was here last week for a few days.

W. F. McDaniel of South Pittsburg, was here Wednesday of last week.

Miss Nell Campbell is in New York where she will spend the winter.

Mrs. J. A. Campbell and daughter, Lena, are visiting in East Tennessee.

Miss Lucile Wright of Dunlap, spent Thanksgiving here with home folks.

Miss May Strawn, who was injured by being thrown from a horse, has recovered.

John M. Burger, subscription agent for the Chattanooga News, was here last week.

Mrs. John Lawson and sister, Miss Ruby Chadwick, of Sequachee, were here Friday.

Mrs. Joe Brown has returned from Lebanon, Tenn., where she has been visiting her parents.

Mrs. Arthur Hayron of Whitwell visited her parents Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Walker this week.

Pryor Institute students scattered pretty well for Thanksgiving, but that is no circumstance to what it will be Christmas.

T. L. Stewart has made some nice improvements to the Hopkins property which he purchased some time ago, adding a porch and building a new barn.

Rev. J. B. Frazier preached a fine sermon here Sunday, Nov. 29, filling the pulpit of the M. E. Church, South.

The subject of his discourse was "I appealed to Caesar", and it was splendidly delivered. Rev. Frazier is a chaplain in the Navy and a brother-in-law of A. A. Cook, cashier of the First National Bank, South Pittsburg.

coolie puts the shafts down upon the ground with a thump and if one does not step out of the vehicle he is likely to spill out. Wherever one goes there are dozens of rickshaws waiting for passengers; one cannot evade them, and day and night they bob up every where. An electric street railway system has been in operation in Yokohama within the past few years, but as far as the writer knows the rickshaws are still the popular mode of conveyance among the natives and foreigners, which is no doubt due to the fact that the latter is the most convenient mode of travel and lands a person at the threshold of his destination.

On some future date when time is more convenient, I will continue this letter of a visit to Tokyo, the Capital City.

With best wishes ever, I am,

JAMES C. THORNTON.

Martin-Hix.

A pretty wedding occurred at the home of Mrs. Lela Martin, 211 East 21st St., Chattanooga, at 5:30 Thursday evening when her daughter, Thula Myers, became the bride of Harry William Hix, formerly of Cleveland, Tenn.

The marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. C. B. Waller, of the Second Baptist Church. The bride is a former belle of Sequachee but has lived in Chattanooga for the last two years. The groom is a well known young man and has many friends in Chattanooga.

Besides the immediate relatives of the bride, the following friends and relatives of the contracting parties were present: Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Martin and son, Arthur, Mrs. John Byers and Miss Pearl Byers, Mr. and Mrs. Hark Hargis, Miss Eva Ables and Miss Louise Hill.

After the ceremony a nice supper was served, after which the newly wedded pair left for the home of the groom's parents, where they will reside for a while.

Kodol for Dyspepsia, indigestion, weak stomach, sour stomach, gas on the stomach, etc., is a combination of the natural digestive juices found in a healthy stomach with necessary vegetable acids, and is the only thing known today that will completely digest all kinds of food under any condition. It is guaranteed to give prompt relief from any form of stomach trouble. Take Kodol and be convinced. It will cure your dyspepsia. Sold by J. W. Simpson, Jasper, Tenn.

To Santa Claus.

Victoria, Tenn., Dec. 1, 1908.

Dear Santa Claus: I will write you a letter to tell you what I want you to bring me. Please bring me a toy wagon and a little pair of goats. I will hang up my stockings and you must fill them up.

JESSE BRAY.

For best grades of job work send to the News job office. Prompt delivery of all orders and all work carefully done.

R. T. Simpson is in Cincinnati.

T. L. Wilkerson is visiting in Arkansas.

Mrs. S. H. Thurman of Trenton, Ga. has been visiting here.

Miss Mary Gilliam, of Tracy City, was a visitor here last week.

Miss Catharine James, of Texas, has been visiting Miss Callie Simpson.

Mathew's meat shop is being re-shingled. It is the property of J. G. Lankester.

Byron Pope attended court at Dunlap last week, and reported a short session.

Mrs. J. S. Sullivan of Clarksville, Tenn., has been visiting her son, G. P. Jackson.

Mrs. Annis Kelly visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Walker, in Whitwell Tuesday of last week.

Thanksgiving services were conducted at the M. E. Church, South, Thursday. Rev. C. C. Morris preached.

Mrs. J. S. Bennett and charming daughter, Miss Verda Bennett, were here one day last week on a shopping trip.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Polk Tarwater, Rockwood, Tenn., a girl. Mrs. Tarwater was formerly Miss Grace Spears of this place.

Dr. Chas. Griffith was the guest of Dr. Fred Pryor at Whitwell a few days last week, and put in a considerable portion of his time hunting.

Miss McKenney, teacher of Latin and English at Pryor Institute, visited in South Pittsburg the latter part of last week the guest of Miss Bessie Patton.

Rev. M. A. Hunt and family expect to leave this week for Chattanooga.

They have been residents of our town for several years, and are highly esteemed.

The "Miss Fearless" Company, a coterie of young amateur players in this city, gave a very creditable entertainment at the college Thanksgiving evening. They propose to give several entertainments during the winter, and we, for our part, would rather assist home talent with our shekles than pay it to outside combinations.

Miss Chastain's school at Whitwell gave an entertainment last night, "Tom Thumb's Wedding."

The invitations to the entertainment were printed on white cards and read as follows:

Miss Chastain's school requests the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter, Jennie June,

to Tom Thumb, Jr.,

Wednesday evening, December second, nineteen hundred and eight, at seven o'clock.

HEALTH is fully restored by the great alterative and tonic, Hood's Sarsaparilla, and you remember the old saying,—health IS WEALTH.

Read the News—50c for 52 issues.

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Would You Throw Away \$1000?

THE man who could save and bank \$5 per month and doesn't do it is throwing away \$60 per year—the gross earning power of \$1,000 at 6 per cent. interest.

Safe investments which annually pay 6 per cent. net are not so plentiful as they used to be.

Why not start an account with us and conserve this "\$1,000 earning?" You can open an account with \$1.00. Come in and let us talk over the matter.

We want your business and believe we deserve it from our past record.

Remember we pay 4 0/0 INTEREST on Time Deposits.

The Marion Trust & Banking Co.

JASPER, TENN.

S. H. ALEXANDER, President. T. G. GARRETT, Vice-President. A. L. SPEARS, Cashier.

BOYD & WALKER,

JASPER, TENN.,

Liverymen and Undertakers

Splendid Rigs, Service Prompt

Careful Drivers, Open All Hours

Complete line of Coffins and Caskets at very reasonable prices, ladies' and gentlemen's Burial Robes and Shoes.

BROWN'S FERRY.

Special to the News.

Our school at St. Paul commenced Monday. Prof. Morgan, of Chattanooga, is teacher.

Misses Mary and Isabel Jackson and Mrs. R. J. Massey were visiting Miss Gracie Thompson Sunday.

Frank Boydston went to Chattanooga Monday.

Roy Emery was visiting in St. Elmo Tuesday.

Mrs. Joe Thompson was visiting Mrs. Mattie Boydston Sunday.

Bob Tinker went to Chattanooga Monday.

Mrs. Florence Massey was visiting Mrs. Jerry Fryar Tuesday.

C. I. Foster went to Chattanooga Saturday.

Baldwin Boone, of Morristown, Tenn., is visiting his mother this week.

John Souders moved to the Lock and Dam Monday.

Mack Brown called on Willie Levi Sunday.

R. J. Massey and son, Hobart, went to Chattanooga Saturday.

Jeff Hartman went to Chattanooga Tuesday.

Sevier Jackson was a Chattanooga visitor Monday.

Frank Hartman called on H. V. A. Massey Saturday. Valley Bird.

Shot by Sheriff.

Thomas Griffin was shot through the back Sunday, Nov. 20, by Sheriff Westmoreland at the lock and dam.

Griffin was ordered by the sheriff to stop, but took to his heels upon seeing the sheriff, who wanted to converse with him upon a subject. The ball struck Griffin in the back and passed through his breast, making a bad wound. This account of the affair is as nearly accurate as we can gather.

Medicine That Is Medicine.

"I have suffered a good deal with malaria and stomach complaints, but I have now found a remedy that keeps me well, and that remedy is Electric Bitters: a medicine that is medicine for stomach and liver troubles, and for run down conditions," says W. C. Kiestler, of Halliday, Ark. Electric Bitters purify and enrich the blood, tone up the nerves, and impart vigor and energy to the weak. Your money will be refunded if it fails to help you. 50c at Whitwell Drug Co's.

Base Ball Not Deceased Yet.

GUILD, Tenn., Nov. 28.—Probably as late games of baseball as were ever played in this section were pulled off Sunday, Nov. 20, when a team from South Chattanooga came down to whale the locals. Things turned out differently than they expected for they lost both games played, the first 5 to 2, and the second 8 to 4. There was strong rivalry between the teams, and the games were hotly contested.

A Dangerous Operation.

is the removal of the appendix by a surgeon. No one who takes Dr. King's New Life Pills is ever subjected to this frightful ordeal. They work so quietly you don't feel them. They cure constipation, headache, biliousness, and malaria. 25c at Whitwell Drug Co's.

Read the News—best on earth.

FOUND BIG COAL DEPOSIT.

Dr. P. C. Grayson Keeps up His Record as a Discoverer of Minerals.

WHITWELL, Tenn., Nov. 28.—Dr. P. C. Grayson, the noted milk-sick and rheumatism doctor, was here Saturday. The doctor was highly elated over finding a vein of coal for the Grandview Coal Co., which was not to be found until he got on the trail. He is something of an expert in finding minerals. The vein is what is known as the old Nelson vein, and the doctor located it on North Suck Creek, and it was showing thirty-six inches of good coal when last heard from. According to contract, he gets \$50 if it goes to four feet and \$100 if it was on the lands of the Grandview Company. He located the vein Wednesday, Nov. 18, accompanied by Will Barber and J. A. Marshall, of the Grandview company, and had no difficulty in so doing, as he has kept a close watch on the changes in the appearance of things in that section for a number of years past.

Died.

Mark Abrams died at his home on the Jasper pike Sunday after a long sickness. He was buried at Jasper Monday. He was a resident of this place for a number of years, working for the Gustafson Manufacturing Company, and moved with the firm to Chattanooga, where he was a shop foreman for some time. He returned to this place about a year ago, and secured employment as engineer of the Sequachee Handle Works. He leaves a wife and family.

Burglars at So. Pittsburg.

SOUTH PITTSBURG, Tenn., Nov. 20.—The store of Denham & Arendale was broken into through a side window last night and the thieves took about \$200 worth of merchandise. Sheriff Phipps of Chattanooga, was asked to come with his bloodhounds, but owing to one of the dogs being sick, declined to come. There are several good clues, and the guilty parties will be apprehended if possible.

Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup stops the cough by allaying inflammation of the throat and lungs, and it drives the cold from the system by gently moving the bowels. Children like it for it tastes nearly as good as maple sugar. Sold by J. W. Simpson, Jasper, Tenn.

NOTICE.

I will be at Jasper on Monday of each week. All parties desiring dental work will please call at the Hughes House. I will be in Sequachee on the Friday nearest to 30th of the month.

N. B. MOORE, Dentist.

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Fifty cents gets the News 52 times.